
INTRODUCTION

150th ANNIVERSARY

1849 - Creation of the “Home Department”

The mission of the Department of the Interior is to protect and provide access to our Nation’s natural and cultural heritage and honor our trust responsibilities to Tribes. This mission has substantially changed over the last 150 years since Congress created the Home Department or Department of the Interior to oversee Indian Affairs, explore the western wilderness, direct the District of Columbia jail, mark boundaries, conduct the census, and conduct research on geological resources. The Department’s first budget totaled approximately \$5.3 million. The westward movement was summed up by Horace Greeley’s advice, “Go West, young man, go West!” The “forty-niners” hurried across the

“Great American Desert” to reach the gold fields of newly acquired California.

1899 - The first great conservation era

Interior’s budget totaled \$161.4 million, primarily for the General Land Office, Pension Office, and Indian Office. Frederick Jackson Turner had declared that “the frontier was closed” at the Columbia Exposition in Chicago in the summer of 1893. John Wesley Powell had explored the Colorado River and argued that the west (and eventual States) should be delineated on logical watersheds rather than political boundaries. “Seward’s Folly,” the purchase of Alaska from Russia in 1867, added substantial acreage to the public domain.



Yellowstone had been created as the first National Park in 1872 based on reports from the Hayden expedition and spectacular paintings and photographs by Thomas Moran and William Henry Jackson. The prophets of the fledgling conservation movement such as John Muir and George Bird Grinnell preached preservation of the natural landscape. President Theodore Roosevelt would establish the first National Wildlife Refuge in 1903.

1949 - Post war growth

Interior's budget totalled \$500 million, with 62 percent of funding allocated to the Bureau of Reclamation and Bonneville Power Administration for water development and irrigation projects as the nation's great dam building era continued. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Interior Secretary Harold Ickes had shepherded the nation through the Great Depression and transformed the role of the Federal government — and the management of our natural and cultural resources — through innovative programs like the Civilian Conservation Corps.

The post war economy and increased leisure time, the baby boom, and the development of the interstate transportation system led to increased interest and enjoyment of the Nation's natural and cultural resources. Now that most of the "desirable" public domain had been homesteaded, Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1946 combined the General Land Office and the Grazing Service into the Bureau of Land Management. The Everglades National Park was created in 1947. Increasing public interest and the courage of visionaries like writer (and former FWS employee) Rachel Carson would lead to passage of significant legislation including the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Wilderness Act.



1999 - On the verge of the next millennium

The Department has entered a third era in the conservation movement. Landscape scale approaches seek to preserve and restore the Nation's natural and cultural resources, while ensuring the Nation's economic development needs. Successful efforts include the Florida Everglades, Bay-Delta restoration, and the President's Forest Plan in the Pacific Northwest. The 1999 budget request totals \$8.1 billion to support 69,100 park rangers, biologists, geologists, engineers, and school teachers delivering quality services to the American people.

The popular National Park System comprises over 376 units and 83 million acres visited by 275 million people annually. The National Wildlife Refuge System has grown to 512 refuges covering 93 million acres visited by 30 million people each year. The public lands, once called the "land that no one wanted," administered by BLM, now produce \$1.2 billion annually from oil, gas, and coal, as well as an additional \$400 million from timber and grazing, while 74 million people vie for recreation, wildlife, and wilderness opportunities.

The U.S. Geological Survey is the Nation's premier natural science agency providing cutting edge cartographic, geologic, biologic, and hydrologic research and monitoring techniques to guide land and resource management decisions. The Bureau of Indian Affairs has made great strides in promoting self-determination of American Indians and Alaska Natives. The Bureau of Reclamation manages, develops, and protects water and related resources. The Minerals Management Service supervises the production of some one million barrels of oil per day from the Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf. The Office of Surface Mining supervises the reclamation of abandoned mine lands.

BUDGET OVERVIEW FOR 1999

The President has proposed a balanced budget for 1999, three years earlier than agreed to in last year's Bipartisan Budget Agreement.

Within the framework of the balanced budget, the President has protected the basic operating programs of the Department of the Interior. These programs provide recreational opportunities for 379 million visitors to parks, refuges, and public lands, generating over \$100 billion in benefits to local communities.

Interior programs also generate substantial economic benefits through the leasing of public lands and the Outer Continental Shelf in developing mineral and other natural resources. They provide a sound scientific basis for land management decisions. They also supply and manage water in much of the western United States. The Department works with Indian Tribes to protect trust resources and provide education, social services, and other programs for their members.

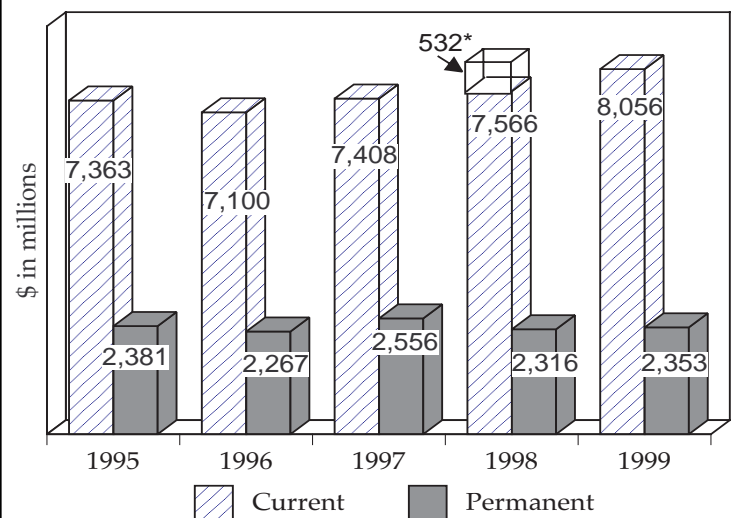
In addition to the base programs, the President's budget proposes new funding for the Department of the Interior to:

- Protect priority ecosystems through the first year of a five year plan through the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
- Conserve, protect, and enhance the rivers, lakes, and wetlands that link and nourish watersheds for critical species and habitat needs.
- Address facility infrastructure restoration in the park system, the refuges, and the public land through the first year of a multi-year effort to provide better and safer facilities for visitors and employees.
- Make the Endangered Species Act work better through partnership efforts with private landowners, Safe Harbor agreements, Habitat Conservation Plans, and candidate conservation agreements.
- Implement the Vice President's clean water initiative to address public health threats posed by water pollution and polluted runoff through research and mitigation to promote water quality on a watershed basis.

- Continue to restore priority watersheds such as California's Bay-Delta, the Florida Everglades, and the Pacific Northwest.

- Support and promote tribal sovereignty by funding programs of priority concern to Indian country, such as education, school facility construction, law enforcement, natural resources management, and trust systems improvement.

Department of the Interior Funding



*The \$532 million represents a special appropriation in 1998 for Priority Land Acquisitions, Land Exchanges, and Maintenance. This funding is not included in the Department's normal Title I funding.

The Numbers:

The Department of the Interior 1999 request for funds subject to annual appropriation by the Congress is \$8.1 billion. This is an increase of \$490.8 million from the 1998 appropriation, not counting the one-time special 1998 LWCF appropriation of \$532.0 million.

Changes in Interior's 1999 budget include:

- The 1999 Budget proposes the first year of a five year program to address critical health and safety needs in maintenance and construction, as well as ongoing

BUDGET AUTHORITY AND RECEIPTS
FOR 1997, 1998, AND 1999
(in millions of dollars)

	1997 <u>Actual</u>	1998 <u>Enacted</u>	1999 <u>Request</u>	Change <u>from 1998</u>
Budget Authority				
Current Appropriations	7,408	7,566	8,056	+491
Title V, Priority Land Acquisition	—	<u>532</u>	—	—
Total Current Appropriations	7,408	8,098	8,056	-42
<i>[Discretionary BA in Above]</i>	<i>[7,341]</i>	<i>[8,012]</i>	<i>[7,910]</i>	<i>[-102]</i>
Permanent Appropriations	<u>2,556</u>	<u>2,316</u>	<u>2,353</u>	<u>+37</u>
Total	9,964	10,414	10,410	-4
Receipts				
Outer Continental Shelf (OCS)	4,711	4,221	4,187	-34
OCS Escrow Payment	6	1,583	10	-1,573
Onshore Mineral Leasing	1,294	1,294	1,337	+43
Other Receipts	<u>1,776</u>	<u>1,734</u>	<u>1,727</u>	<u>-7</u>
Total	7,787	8,832	7,261	-1,571

(Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.)

natural and cultural resource protection projects. For maintenance programs, it represents an increase of \$82.0 million, or eighteen percent over 1998, which will tackle the most pressing maintenance backlog needs. For construction programs, the budget represents a net decrease of \$14.0 million to better focus efforts the first year of the five year program. Outyear construction funding is proposed to increase.

- The Bureau of Reclamation budget includes \$143.3 million to continue Federal cost-sharing in ecosystem restoration efforts in California's Bay-Delta. This includes a requested increase of \$58.3 million. Funding will be allocated among participating Federal agencies based on plans recommended by CALFED, a consortium of Federal and State agencies with responsibilities in the Bay-Delta.

- The budget includes an increase of \$38.8 million to more efficiently and effectively implement the Administration's reforms of the Endangered Species Act and position the FWS to comply with the initial needs of a reauthorized ESA, should that happen. Increased funding will be used, for example, to implement candidate conservation agreements to keep species from being listed; to develop and put in place multi-species Habitat Conservation Plans which bal-

ance economic development and species protection; and to negotiate Safe Harbor Agreements with private landowners to encourage them to enhance or improve habitat for endangered species on their property.

- The BIA budget requests an additional \$142.1 million to support strong tribal governments and safe communities in Indian country. This additional funding request includes \$32.2 million in additional funding for education programs; \$32.2 million to accelerate BIA school facility construction; and \$16.8 million for natural resources management trust programs. Tribal Priority Allocations are increased by \$34.0 million.

- A requested \$25.0 million increase for BIA's law enforcement programs will strengthen core law enforcement functions such as hiring criminal investigators and uniformed police. This is part of an Administration-wide effort in which the Department of Justice is also requesting a \$51.5 million funding increase for drug testing and treatment, juvenile justice, and assistance to tribal courts, in addition to dedicating over \$105.5 million in base funding for detention centers and reservation law enforcement programs.

- The budget includes increases totaling \$9.6 million in the BIA and the Office of the Special Trustee for

continued implementation of the trust management improvement project and to eliminate probate and land records processing backlogs. In addition, the 1999 request includes \$10.0 million to initiate a pilot program on one or more Indian reservations to consolidate fractional interests in Indian land.

- The Department will begin to implement on-the-ground restoration efforts tied to implementation of the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Plan with requested increases of \$8.3 million in the BLM and FWS.

- Other BLM operating programs will increase by a net amount of \$34.5 million, including \$7.7 million as part of the Department's maintenance initiative and \$16.0 million for watershed restoration. Other operations increases include additional funding for range-land management improvements, noxious weed control, and improvements to the management of wild horses and burros on the public lands.

- An additional \$18.2 million will support ongoing wildland fire fighting operations and expansion of the Department's fuels management initiative. Thinning and fire treatments further the Administration's priority on protecting the environment by improving ecosystem health. Under optimal weather and other fire prescription conditions, the Department expects to treat more than 900,000 acres in 1999.

- A net increase of \$47.7 million is proposed for important USGS programs. Increases include \$15.0 million to establish a disaster information network to improve the response, recovery, mitigation, and preparation in face of large scale potential natural disasters. An \$11.0 million increase will be used to better understand species and habitat relationships and to help land managers make better decisions. The USGS also requests an increase of \$16.5 million to address pollution control issues on federal lands and to investigate non-point source pollution.

- In addition to a \$10.9 million maintenance increase as part of the maintenance initiative, the NWR system will receive a \$15.0 million operations increase to support habitat improvement projects, biological field work, and enhanced recreation opportunities.

- Additional operations increases in the FWS total \$19.3 million. These include \$5.7 million for habitat conservation programs; \$1.3 million for migratory bird work; \$4.4 million for fisheries projects; and \$3.5 million to fully staff the proposed Sacramento, California, regional office.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES

(budget authority in million of dollars)

Interior and Related Agencies

1998 Enacted Level

(excluding \$532 special L WCF)..... \$6,661

Park maintenance	+69
Millennium Fund to Save America's Treasures ..	+50
FWS endangered species reform	+39
BIA tribal priority allocation funds	+34
Other NPS operations changes	+33
BIA education	+32
BIA education construction	+32
National Wildlife Refuge operations & maint. ...	+26
Law enforcement in Indian country	+25
Other FWS operations changes	+19
Wildland fire management.....	+18
BIA natural resources trust programs	+17
USGS research – clean water	+16
BLM watershed health	+16
USGS disaster network	+15
BLM habitat & species / other operations	+11
USGS research – habitat and species	+11
Indian land consolidation pilot	+10
Historically Black Colleges and Universities.....	+10
Trust management improvement - OST/BIA	+10
Interior Columbia Basin ecosystem*	+8
BLM maintenance	+8
OCS leasing workload	+7
MMS royalty re-engineering	+5
U.S. Park Police one-time FY 1998 approp.	-12
Presidio Trust transfer from NPS	-15
Reduction for growth in MMS offset receipts	-29
Land management construction	-47
All other net changes.....	+41

1999 Request, Interior and Related Agencies . \$7,122

Energy and Water Development

FY 1998 Enacted Level

California Bay-Delta ecosystem restoration	+58
Other BOR/CUP changes	-28

1999 Request, Energy and Water Development \$934

Total 1999 Budget Request \$8,056

* \$1.5 million of this amount also included in FWS endangered species reform item above.

- In addition to a \$69.0 million maintenance increase as part of the maintenance initiative, Park Service operations are increased by \$33.0 million, including pay increases adjustments at all parks and specific program needs at 46 parks.

- A new \$50.0 million Millennium Fund to Save America's Treasures will provide grants to protect significant papers, records, films, buildings, and historic objects. States, Tribes, and territories will be eligible for \$25.0 million while the remaining \$25.0 million will be made available to Federal agencies for the preservation of projects of national scope and significance. A \$9.8 million increase will fund needed

repair work at Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

- The Minerals Management Service will receive \$7.5 million in additional funding to ensure the safe and environmentally sound development of the Outer Continental Shelf due to the resurgence of industry interest in the Gulf of Mexico.

- Major decreases from the 1998 level include: - \$29.0 million due to growth in MMS offsetting receipts; -\$14.9 million for a Presidio Trust transfer from the NPS; and -\$12.0 million for a reduction of a one-time U.S. Park Police increase in the 1998 appropriation.